MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 MAY 1981

Lebanon

Israel on Missiles--Jerusalem radio reported that Prime Minister Menahem Begin has sent a message to President Ronald Reagan that explicitly calls for the withdrawal of Syrian SAM missiles from Lebanon but agrees to the President's request that Israel allow U.S. diplomatic efforts to continue. Later the radio said Begin's message told the President that Israel cannot wait long for Syria to remove its missiles from Lebanon. In an interview with the radio, Begin said Israel would "under no circumstances" endanger its own people by ceasing its reconnaissance overflights of Lebanese territory. Israel has a full understanding with the United States regarding this matter, he added. The Israeli leader also said that if U.S. diplomatic efforts fail, Israel will be unable to tolerate the presence of the Syrian missiles on Lebanese territory and "we shall do what we have to do." Begin praised the United States for moving "heaven and earth" in its diplomatic efforts to defuse the Lebanese crisis, but he noted these efforts have so far been in vain. He said only a miracle would bring about a successful diplomatic resolution of the problem, Jerusalem radio reported. Meanwhile, in a separate statement reported by the radio, Begin said Syria has moved SAM-3 missiles to its border with Lebanon. Commenting on the situation, Jerusalem radio said the Israeli defense establishment thinks the Syrians do not intend to withdraw their missiles. The combination of three types of SAM missiles would enable the Syrians to down planes at various altitudes, the radio pointed out. Jerusalem television's political correspondent said that neither in Jerusalem nor in the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv is there much optimism about the forthcoming visit to the area of U.S. special envoy Philip Habib.

Khaddam Consultations in Beirut--Before returning to Damascus, Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam held a press conference, broadcast by Beirut and Damascus radios, in which he said that the presence of Syrian SAM missiles in Lebanon is not a subject for discussion and criticized the Israelis for seeking their removal in order to strike at the Lebanese people. Regarding the diplomatic efforts of the United States, Khaddam said the most useful thing it could do would be to exert pressure to stop Israel's aggression against Lebanon. Khaddam also said that after his consultations with President Ilyas Sarkis and other Lebanese politicians he is more optimistic than before about the search for security and peace in Lebanon. Asserting that political conciliation and security are interlinked issues, Khaddam said all Lebanese groups should emerge as "winners" from the crisis, otherwise the stage would be set for a new battle. He also said the Zahlah issue is receiving great attention and asserted that he has no objection to meeting any Lebanese leader, including Phalangist military commander Bashir al-Jumayyil. Beirut radio reported that President Sarkis held extensive consultations throughout the day with deputies and delegations, including a group of Zahlah and Al-Biqa' deputies headed by Defense Minister Joseph Skaf and a bloc of Phalangist deputies headed by Bashir al-Jumayyil. According to the radio, Skaf later said he had asked for an end to the siege of Zahlah and had demanded that the 14 principles of accord be implemented quickly.

Christian Statements--A statement by the Union of Christian Leagues and the research committee in Al-Kaslik, broadcast by the Voice of Lebanon, strongly criticized the Syrian presence in Lebanon and described the present attempt to achieve national accord as a camouflage for Lebanon's basic problem, which is the presence of non-Lebanese in the country. A true accord will only be possible, it said, when all "alien usurpers and occupiers" withdraw from Lebanon. The Egyptian news agency MENA reported that Christians in Zahlah have sent a message to Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, published in the Lebanese newspaper AL-BAYRAQ, asking him to intervene to make the Syrians lift their siege of the city and to expel the Syrians from Lebanon.

Military Situation--The clandestine Voice of the Palestine radio reported that Israeli and Christian militia forces shelled Qal-at ash-Shaqif and the Arnun region. Citing AFP

Beirut radio said that 50 Israeli armored vehicles crossed into Lebanon. Israel has also prepared a new helicopter landing site in the west of the border strip, the radio added. Voice of Lebanon reported that Syrian helicopters flew logistical flights in the Al-Biqa' region. The radio also said Beirut and Zahlah were calm, although some explosions and firing occurred in the capital.

Iran

Arbitration Commission--Tehran radio said that Iran has not yet fixed a date for a meeting of the international arbitration commission, a body set up by the Algiers declaration to investigate the claims of Iran and the United States. Citing the official responsible for coordinating implementation of the Algiers declaration, the radio also said that since Iran has objected to one of the U.S. appointees to the commission and the United States has failed to appoint a new arbitrator, it will not be possible to draft an agenda for the session.

Relations with Kuwait--Tehran radio broadcast a Foreign Ministry statement detailing the circumstances of and reasons for Iran's recent seizure of a ship conducting seismological operations on Kuwait's behalf on the Iranian-Kuwaiti continental shelf. The statement said Iran regarded the ship's operations as "unfriendly" given the present war situation and in the absence of a clear demarcation of the Iranian-Kuwaiti continental shelf. Accordingly, on several occasions in April Iran had asked the Kuwaiti Government to halt the ship's mission, the statement said, but the Kuwaits demurred. Iran therefore seized the ship and the Kuwaitis adopted "an unreasonable response." Charging that Kuwaiti economic and media support for Iraq in its war with Iran has contradicted its declared neutrality in the conflict, the statement said the Kuwaiti Government should answer these charges. If it does not, Iran will regard these "provocative acts as hostile."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Nonaligned Mission--The Moroccan news agency MAP, citing an Indian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman, reported that the nonaligned good-will mission will return shortly to Baghdad and Tehran to resume discussions with the two combatant governments.

Military Situation--An Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique, carried by INA, said Iraqi units launched a successful attack in the Nowsud region, killing 117 Iranians. The communique also reported clashes in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Dezful, Shush and Abadan regions. Tehran radio confirmed that Iraqi artillery had pounded Dezful, Ahvaz and Abadan, but said Iranian forces had repulsed an Iraqi ground attack on Dezful and forced an Iraqi tank force in Abadan to retreat. According to a guards corps communique, carried by the radio, revolution guards seized seven Iraqi tanks in a counterattack in the Dezful region. Tehran radio also reported that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn personally commanded a recently defeated Iraqi division and that Iranian forces now hold the Bazi Deraz heights, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and the Qaregh Bolagh township.

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PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRG

For West German coverage of the official visit by Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman, see the Federal Republic of Germany section of the 5-6 May issues of the Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

PARLIAMENT ORDERED ADJOURNED 'INDEFINITELY'

BK050342 Hong Kong AFP in English 1333 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Dacca, 3 May (AFP)--The Bangladesh parliament was adjourned indefinitely by presidential order last night amidst stormy protests from opposition members against a ruling party motion alleging that Awami League leader Tufail Ahmed held secret meetings with foreign embassy officials in Dacca last March.

The opposition members demanded the withdrawal of a motion fielded by Bangladesh National Party (BNP) member Wajed Hussain Tarafder.

The motion quoted a report in the ruling party paper DAINIK DESH to the effect that organizing secretary Tufail Ahmed and other Awami League leaders held secret meetings on March 20 at an embassy in the Dacca street where the Indian High Commission is located with a military attache and other officials.

The motion said that such meetings were against the independence and sovereignty of Bangladesh, and called for a Home Ministry statement on the reports.

Deputy Home Minister Adbus Salam said he would need time to collect information and verify the reports before making a statement.

Opposition leader Asaduzzaman Huc called for an immediate reply from the home minister or the withdrawal of the motion. He said the motion was moved in the house deliberately despite a denial from Mr Tufail Ahmed published in the same paper a few days after its initial report.

Amid noisy scenes Speaker Mirza Gulam Hafiz read out the prorogue order from the president and left the house shortly before midnight.

As a result of the uproar the usual statements made by leaders of both sides of the hosue and the speaker at the end of each session could not be made.

KUWAITI DAILY INTERVIEWS GANDHI ON GULF SECURITY

GF060640 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 5 May 81 p 21

["Text" of interview granted to AL-QABAS correspondent Usamah al-Ghuzuli and other Gulf journalists by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in the Indian Foreign Ministry--no date given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Will you propose anything specific on the security of the region during your visit to the Gulf?

[Answer] I believe all issues concern all countries, not India alone or the countries I'm going to visit; they concern the entire world. These issues should be discussed.

[Question] We have been confronted with two methods of tackling the issue of Gulf security. One is Brezhnev's initiative, announced during his visit to India. The other is the U.S. Administration's policy, which has the United Kingdom's support. It calls for a stronger Western military presence. Will you assess each of these methods?

[Answer] Regarding Brezhnev's proposal, I said that a proposal of this kind should be considered. As for a stronger military presence, I say the presence of one party will automatically attract the other to the region. What we see nowadays is rivalries and conflicts between others that do not take place on their lands but in our region. Thus they increase our exposure to danger.

[Question] In your view, how will our people emerge from this crisis?

[Answer] I do not know whether the entire issue is in our hands. However, we have to try to bolster our cooperation. Each of us must help the others so that all become strong in their own countries. This is a very important issue. On our Indian subcontinent, we do not want weak neighbors because it poses a threat. Therefore, we want every country to be strong and stable in itself. This is what we want for all developing countries. India has achieved certain progress in the scientific and technological fields. Therefore, I feel we can stretch out our hands in this area to help others. At the same time, we need help, and this means there is a wide scope of cooperation through bilateral relations.

[Question] As for weak and strong neighbors, it seems the United States is planning to make Pakistan stronger by offering it more arms. What is your opinion?

[Answer] It would be unjust to try to prevent Pakistan from meeting its legitimate defensive needs, but the source of our concern at present is the incentive behind the U.S. aid and whether it will lead to the aggravation of the already existing confrontation--not between us and Pakistan, but confrontation in its broader framework. At the same time, we believe possessing advanced military equipment will probably be a serious issue unless the country that possesses such equipment has the industrial foundation and other necessary preconditions for such advanced military apparatus.

[Question] You have stated, according to the London ECONOMIST, that if Pakistan possesses the atom bomb India will react properly.

[Answer] The question as stated to me was on the degree of our preparedness to meet all eventualities. It is natural that we should be ready. Each country must be prepared as much as possible to meet all eventualities. As for how we will prepare for this, it is a matter that concerns us alone.

[Question] Coming back to the peace and stability in the region, do you believe your country is able to do anything to end the war between Iraq and Iran?

[Answer] As you know, the nonaligned foreign ministers met here. A four-man committee was formed in which our foreign minister is a member. The committee has already visited both countries and will visit them again another time.

[Question] Some parties claim India favors the Iranian side in the war. Is that true?

[Answer] We enjoy close, friendly ties with both countries. We get most of our oil from them. Therefore, it saddens us that they are fighting and we would like the war to end. However, both are angry because we are not siding with either of them, which we believe would not be in the interest of improving the situation.

[Question] It is being said that India is offering secret aid to Iran.

[Answer] We do nothing at all in secret.

[Question] Does this mean you are not offering any aid to either side against the other?

[Answer] I believe that our neutral and usual economic relations with both sides continue to exist on the same level.

SITUATION IN BIHARSHARIF REPORTEDLY PEACEFUL

BK060620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 May 81

[Text] Barring a few cases of arson in the adjoining rural areas yesterday, the situation in Biharsharif continues to be peaceful. This was stated by an official spokesman in Patna last night. He told PTI that a senior state official has been deputed to Biharsharif as special district magistrate for restoring normalcy speedily. One battalion of the Border Security Force, airlifted from Delhi, has already reached Biharsharif. Meanwhile, the leader of the opposition in the state assembly, Karpoori Thakur, has demanded a judicial probe into the distrubances. Several Communist Party of India and Communist Party of India-Marxist leaders have urged the state government to enlist the support of all secular and democratic forces for restoring communal harmony. After a tour of the affected areas, they alleged that the role of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh [Hindu rightwing militant organization] is quite evident in fomenting trouble.

Further Report

BK051622 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 May 81

[Excerpt] No fresh incident has been reported from Biharsharif and other places of Nalanda District in Bihar. Chief Minister Dr Jagannath Mishra told All-India Radio's Patna correspondent that security measures have been tightened in the district. Orders have been issued to arrest all antisocial elements indulging in violence immediately under the National Security Act. The chief minister disclosed that five magistrates and seven police officers have been suspended. Collective punitive fines ranging from 25,000 to 100,000 rupees have been imposed on nine villages where cases of arson and violence were detected. Combing operations are going on in Biharsharif and adjoining areas. A huge quantity of life-saving drugs has been sent to the Biharsharif hospital for treatment of the injured.

FINANCE MINISTER REPORTS DEBTS, EXPORT EARNINGS

BK051102 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] India's credit rating capacity in the world market is very high. This was stated by Finance Minister R. Venkataraman in the upper house of Parliament today. He said that total external debts in government accounts as of 31st of last month is estimated to be about 134,790 million rupees. The export earnings during this year are estimated at about 71,000 million rupees, the minister said. Therefore, the ratio of external debts to export earnings is about 1.9 to 1, he explained.

REPORT ON NUCLEAR EXPLOSION PREPARATIONS REFUTED

BK060818 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 May 81

[Text] Official sources in Islamabad have described as totally incorrect the report circulated by the Indian news agency that alleged that Pakistan is making preparations to conduct a nuclear explosion in Sind jungle. These sources told APP yesterday that such concocted reports were probably aimed at masking India's own plans.

The official sources also described as totally unfounded and mischievous another report by the Indian news agency, which was also cited by Moscow radio, that Pakistan had set up another plant with an annual capacity of 1/2 kg of plutonium that would enable it to make 5 atom bombs annually.

AFGHAN OFFICIAL SUMMONED TO FOREIGN OFFICE

BK060654 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 May 81

[Text] Official sources in Islamabad have confirmed that the Afghan charge d'affaires in the federal capital has been summoned to the Foreign Office several times in connection with incidents of browbeating and intimidation of Pakistani mission personnel in Kabul during the past few days.

The official sources told APP yesterday that the Afghan charge d'affaires was asked to apprise his government that it was imperative that it do everything to ensure the security of the Pakistani mission and its personnel. The Pakistani mission has also apprised the Kabul authorities of this.

The agency reported that, according to international press reports, it was known that the hijackers of the Pakistan International Airlines aircraft and more than 20 of the prisoners released from Pakistan were now staying in Kabul and freely roaming the city, including the Pakistani mission area.

SPOKESMAN CLARIFIES PURPOSE OF SHAHI'S U.S. VISIT

BK041549 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Agha Shahi's U.S. visit is purely in connection with the meeting of the UN advisory board on disarmament. This was stated by a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry in Islamabad today.

The spokesman was commenting on a report published in an Islamabad daily today that said that the foreign minister was going to the United States for further talks.

The spokesman said that everything said in the report about the purpose of Agha Shahi's visit to the United States was totally fabricated. The spokesman added that the visit had no connection with the second round of talks between Pakistan and the United States. He said that no such talks were scheduled at present and the foreign minister had no intention of proceeding to Washington during this visit.

INTELLECTUALS, ACTIVISTS REPORTEDLY RELEASED

OW052043 Paris AFP in English 2029 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] Islamabad, 5 May (AFP)--About 100 people including political leaders, intellectuals, students and party activists have been released from different Pakistani jails, it was reliably learnt today.

They include Mazhar Ali Khan, editor of the left-wing magazine VIEWPOINT, and his wife, sources said.

Authorities had detained numerous people of various political parties in the past few months on charges ranging from martial law violation to anti-state activities during last February's country-wide student demonstrations which the government alleged were politically motivated.

Fresh arrests were made following a crack-down on "subversive" elements after the hijacking last March of a Pakistani plane by supporters of former Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto's Pakistani People's Party (PPP).

The party had claimed that the government had jailed several hundred PPP supporters throughout the country.

After reviewing individual cases, authorities freed members of both left-wing and right-wing parties including the PPP, sources said, adding that most of the released came from Punjab Province.

HUNGARIAN MINISTER HOLDS FINAL TALKS WITH PIRACHA

BK041527 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] Hungarian Deputy Foreign Dr Vencel Hazi held a final round of talks with Foreign Secretary Riaz Piracha at the Foreign Ministry in Islamabad today on important world issues and bilteral relations.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON SEIZURE OF SHIP

LD051312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 May 81

[Statement issued by the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the seizure of a "Panamanian ship in Persian Gulf waters"--date not given]

[Text] In a letter dated 11 April 1981, the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran reported that a ship, the Western Sea, had been engaged in seismological operations in the Iranian-Kuwaiti continental shelf region. Subsequently, a detailed report regarding the matter was forwarded on the same date [presumably to the Foreign Ministry] by the navy. Also on 11 April the Foreign Ministry ordered the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait to meet Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry officials to make them understand that in the present war circumstances this action by the Kuwaiti Government is regarded by Iran as being unfriendly, bearing in mind the absence of a clear demarcation of the Iranian-Kuwaiti continental shelf. For this reason, it demanded that the Kuwaiti Government halt the mission of the said ship and accept responsibility for the consequences of the matter.

In a 13 April telegram, the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait stated that, following discussions with Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry officials, the ship had been ordered to leave the area that night. In a note dated 18 April 1981, the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran, expressing surprise, stated that the Panamanian survey ship had been engaged in seismological operations inside the Kuwaiti continental shelf region while flying Kuwaiti and Panamanian colors. The Kuwaiti officials stressed that the surveying operations were being conducted exclusively within Kuwaiti waters and that the ship would resume its work in the region.

Following receipt of this note, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed a telegram on the same date to the Iranian Embassy in Kuwait inquiring about the contradiction in terms between the statement of the Kuwaiti Government officials and the note sent by the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran. The Foreign Ministry again pointed out that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran deems it incumbent upon itself to defend its rights and stated that the Iranian Government will not be responsible for any consequences in light of the war conditions.

Replying to this telegram, the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait, in a telegram dated 24 April 1981, stated that in two meetings with a Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry official, the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance on the context of war conditions and the absence of demarcation on the Iranian-Kuwaiti continental shelf was explained. The Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry official responded by stating that the ship had been surveying in a region of Kuwaiti economic interests. In the course of prolonged discussions between the Iranian ambassador to Kuwait and the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry official, the Iranian ambassador stressed that first, this is not the time nor the place for such an activity, in the middle of a war zone; second, all losses stemming from war are the responsibility of those who started the war or those who cooperate with those who started the war; and, third, there is no problem between the Iranian and Kuwaiti Governments on determining the demarcation line of the two countries' continental shelf. Any time the border line between Kuwait and Iraq is resolved, Kuwait can come to us and the sea border and demarcation line would be determined in a few days.

In a telegram dated 28 April, the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait informed the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran about the seizure of the Panamanian ship by the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Kuwaiti officials' objections to this. Despite the aforementioned activities and the logical stance adopted by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran at all stages in this affair, the Kuwaiti Government unfortunately adopted an unreasonable response.

Contradictions in statements made by that country's officials, disregard for several warnings by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the entry of the ship into a war zone are clear manifestations of the provocative stance that government has adopted toward the Islamic Republic of Iran. At the beginning of the war imposed on Iran by Iraq, the Kuwaiti Government declared itself neutral and called for an end to the war. Is the recent stance adopted by this government consistent with neutrality? Is the $2-billion loan granted by this government to hireling Saddam consistent with this declared neutrality? Does the extensive propaganda against the Iranian Islamic revolution existing in the country to a maximum extent prove the sincerity of the statements by that country's rulers?

These are questions the Kuwaiti Government must answer clearly; otherwise, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran will regard these provocative acts as hostile and bear them in mind.

[Signed] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

RAFSANJANI ON FRG MISSILES TO IRAQ, DETAINED SHIP

LD052014 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, yesterday held a press conference and answered the questions put to him by the correspondents.

Referring to the story of dispatch of surface-to-surface missiles by West Germany to the aggressive country of Iraq, Mr Rafsanjani said, and here is a quote: We have had reports in this regards, but we cannot determine the extent of truth of these reports, but what we know is that many countries equip Iraq with military missiles.

Mr Hashemi then, referring to the detainment of the foreign ship by the naval force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said: This foreign ship was present in the area which was formally announced as a war area; and that is the reason for the detention of this ship.

RAJA'I OFFICE ISSUES CALL TO IRISH REVOLUTIONARIES

GF060740 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 6 May 81

[Text of call issued by the Prime Ministry Public Relations Office to Irish revolutionaries on the death of Bobby Sands--date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The brave Irish revolutionary, Bobby Sands, is not the first victim of empty Western democracy, nor will he be the last. The innumerable crimes committed against countries under the West's control have blackened the pages of history. The time has come for the imperialist countries to decay from within as punishment for their crimes against humanity.

You, the Irish revolutionaries, should be confident that victory will be on the side of the oppressed and the meek. The enemies of the people--however strong they may be--are weak in front of determined and revolutionary peoples. The Muslim and revolutionary Iranian people proved this in their confrontation with the wealth-devouring great Satan, the United States.

Your voice is resounding all over the world. Raise the flag of resistance and be steadfast against oppressors. Our people will not forget their common fate with all the oppressed of the world despite the fact that they are waging a war imposed by the United States through the agent Iraqi regime. We pray to God for the victory of the Irish people and all peoples under hegemony.

RAJA'I CHAIRS MEETING OF ECONOMICS COUNCIL

LD052124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that the Supreme Economics Council met this afternoon under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Raja'i. The meeting, attended by the ministers of economy and finance, commerce, industry and mines, and the governor of the Central Bank of Iran, discussed economic problems. The meeting ended at 1900 this evening.

PARS INTERVIEWS DELEGATES TO MANILA CONFERENCE

GF051210 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] PARS has interviewed Majlis Deputies Khatemi and Mohajerani, who were in the Philippines recently to attend meetings of the Interparliamentary conference. In the interview the two deputies spoke about the results of their visit to the Philippines.

Sayyed Khatemi said: Our model of Islamic revolution, which is based on the principles of independence and "Neither East nor West," and being the most important event witnessed during the current century, obliges us to participate in international gatherings and functions. Our presence in the international arena grants determination and bravery to those states that respect much of their peoples' opinions and wish to get rid of colonialism and subordination to the superpowers. These states will then aspire to the genuine goals of humanity. This is exactly what the Islamic revolution is eager to achieve.

On the participation of some countries which are hostile to Iran and on the Philippine Government on the Islamic revolution, Seyyed Khatemi said: Our presence in conferences attended by countries hostile to Iran does not mean that we approve of their policies and stands. We actually seek to change and foil what our enemies are trying to impose.

The other Majlis delegate to the Interparliamentary conference held in Manila, Seyyed Mohajerani, noted the superpowers' propaganda war against the Islamic revolution by saying: Our participation in such conferences enables us to provide a correct image of the Islamic revolution for world public opinion.

On the reputation of the Islamic revolution in the Philippines, Seyyed Mohajerani said: The people of the Philippines suffer from a civilization that is influenced by the U.S. ideas of the ruling regime. Despite this, the oppressed Muslims in this country keep pictures of Imam Khomeyni in their houses and view Iran's Islamic revolution with utmost longing and yearning.

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 493 ON VARIOUS BATTLES

LD051748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 May 81

[Communique 493 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Combatant, Muslim compatriots in Iran: You are hereby informed about the situation on the warfronts during the past 24 hours as follows:

The heroes of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Dezful, with their peerless valor and acts of self-sacrifice, yesterday succeeded in repulsing enemy attacks and forced Iraqi forces to retreat after losing two tanks, a trailer carrying ammunition and one vehicle. During these operations, 250 Iraqi servicemen were either killed or wounded and 19 enemy servicemen were captured by the self-sacrificing forces of Islam.

On yet another front in the Dezful region, the defenders of the Islamic revolution of Iran, by opening fire on enemy positions, destroyed two vehicles of the aggressors and either killed or wounded enemy servicemen.

The valiant combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with support from fighter aircraft of the Airborne Division, on one of the Abadan and Darkhovin fronts destroyed one enemy mortar, two vehicles, trenches, foxholes and either killed or wounded large numbers of Iraqi servicemen.

Following the fire by the combatant units of Islam in Abadan and Khuninshahr, 1 enemy vehicle carrying a medium-heavy 106-mm rifle, 1 ammunition dump, 1 mortar emplacement, 1 observation post, several assembly buildings and several foxholes and trenches were set ablaze and 50 enemy servicemen were either killed or wounded.

The enemy subjected Abadan and Ahvaz to heavy weapons fire and inflicted losses on them.

In the western region, combatant units of the Islamic Republic of Iran on one of the Ilam fronts destroyed 2 enemy personnel carriers and either killed or wounded 10 of Saddam's aggressive servicemen. On other western fronts, too, exchange of fire continued between the self-sacrificing combatants of Islam and the aggressors and our heroic forces in the Bazi Deraz region destroyed an enemy tank and either killed or wounded servicemen from Saddam's army.

On 3 May, six of our military brothers from the Ground Forces, two from the Air Force and one from the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran achieved the honor of martyrdom and joined the ranks of the martyrs overlastingly watching over history--happy may their souls be!

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

GUARDS REPORT CLASHES NEAR DEZFUL, AHVAZ

LD052040 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 May 81

[Communique of the Public Relations Office of the Command Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps--issued 5 May]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. "The world oppressed should themselves rise against the oppressors!"--Imam Khomeyni.

Cherishing the hope for the success of all the heroic combatants of the army of good we hereby inform our vigilant Islamic nation of certain operations carried out yesterday and today by the self-sacrificing combatants of the revolution guards corps.

A. On the western fronts:

1. Dezful region: Following yesterday's aggression by Saddam's troops on the Karkheh Kur River area, the self-sacrificing army of Islam launched a crushing counterattack and seized seven tanks and personnel carriers of the infidel enemy and killed or wounded many enemy personnel. During these operations yesterday another 10 soldiers of the forces of blasphemy were captured by the troops of Islam. Also yesterday, an observation post of the Ba'thist mercenaries was destroyed by the mortar fire of our brothers. The Iraqi soldiers occupying the post were killed.

2. Ahvaz region: The accurate fire of the mortar units of the self-sacrificing combatants of the guards corps, in conjunction with the crushing support of the artillery of the heroes of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, destroyed one enemy tank and several trenches on the Darkhovin-Mared axis.

The fast-flying eagles of the Airborne Division, enjoying the support of their combatant brothers, destroyed five artillery pieces and one vehicle of the forces of the agent Saddam. On the western fronts, in the Marivan region, the mercenary enemy entertained the crass thought of occupying the heights of [name indistinct] and Azur but met with our heroic rebuff and after suffering heavy losses and casualties was forced to flee from the manly battlefield.

[Signed] The Public Relations Offices of the Command Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

DIVISION COMMANDED BY SADDAM DEFEATED IN WEST

LD051736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 May 81

[Summary] According to PARS, an Iraqi division, which was defeated by Iranian forces in the western part of the country recently, was personally commanded by Saddam Husayn. Disclosing this news, Abu Sharif [former chief of the revolution guards] said during this operation, the Iraqis lost 104 tanks and personnel carriers. An Iraqi armored brigade was also completely destroyed.

Quoting Abu Sharif, PARS also reports from Kermanshah that a fresh Iraqi brigade replaced the above-mentioned brigade 2 days ago. Abu Sharif stressed that according to Iraqi POW's, Saddam Husayn personally commanded the division and that he forced reluctant soldiers to fight.

According to another operational commander in the west, 2 days ago Iranian planes destroyed a number of enemy ammunition and equipment stores, tanks and vehicles on the battlefronts in Bazi Deraz, Cham-e Imam Hasan, Charmian and Khosravi; they also inflicted considerable damage on an enemy concentration in the same region.

According to the operational commander of Zahab, all the Iraqi military ploys so far have been foiled and an enemy artillery unit was completely destroyed. Also, an Iraqi artillery battalion in Cham-e Imam Hasan received 60 percent damage.

Two other operational commanders of Zahab confirmed the battle superiority of the Iranian forces over the Iraqis on the western heights. They said: We have driven the enemy from the Bazi Deraz heights, and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and the Qareh Bolagh township are at present in the hands of our forces. It was also said that during recent operations, 15 antiaircraft guns, three SAM-3's, some ammunition for 82-mm and 60-mm mortars and about 1 million rounds of Kalashnikov bullets were captured from the enemy. More than 5,000 antitank and antipersonnel mines were discovered in a number of fields and either defused or used by our forces.

According to PARS, during the past 24 hours exchange of fire continued on the Qasr-e Shirin, Qaraviz and Dasht-e Zahab height , the Gilan-e Gharb axis, and in Rijab, Dalahu and Sumar; Iranian forces were able to neutralize a series of enemy penetration operations in the Bang Siran region, on the Gilan-e Gharb front.

SHOOTING ACROSS SHATT AL-'ARAB, IN ABADAN REPORTED

LD052214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 5 May 81

[Summary] PARS reports from Abadan that due to Iranian artillery fire on enemy positions on the other side of Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab], the four-light jetty [as heard] of Al-Ma'amir, inside Iraq, caught fire.

Also the fighting tribesmen of Arvand Kenar destroyed a crane, a bulldozer and three trenches for 75-mm and 50-mm caliber weapons near the jetty and a number of Iraqis were killed.

According to the same report, exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued today on the Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts. Iranian mortar fire destroyed two enemy 50-mm machine-gun trenches near Abadan's Tir Square. Three Iranians were killed by mortar fire during this operation, one of whom was a doctor.

According to this report, the Iraqis brought the Arab-inhabited areas of Arvand Kenar and Minu Island under long-range artillery fire today, causing damage to houses in the two regions. An Armenian church was also damaged. Nineteen civilians and noncivilians were injured and were transferred to hospitals.

IRAQI GREEN BERET COMMANDER, 9 OTHERS CAPTURED

LD042232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] One of the operational commanders of Saddam's green berets was captured by our forces. According to PARS, an attempt by Saddam's pagan forces to recapture one of the strategic heights in the west of Karkheh Kur bridge, on the southern front, was confronted by severe resistance by the braves of Islam and the attack was unsuccessful.

According to this report, during this battle nine others were also captured by the soliders of Islam. Our forces removed the bodies of five Ba'thist mercenaries which had been left in their trenches and buried them with full religious ceremonies.

FOREIGN JOURNALISTS VISIT KERMANSHAH 4 MAY

GF041318 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] Our correspondent in Kermanshah reports that foreign correspondents arrived in Kermanshah today to inspect the battle fronts in the war between right and wrong and to learn about the Muslim fighters' operations against Saddam's forces of aggression.

The correspondents will visit residential and other civilian areas that have been bombed by the forces of the Iraqi regime. They will also make documentaries showing the results of the savage and inhuman bombardment of the aggressor forces. These films will be broadcast on television throughout the world.

THREE 'ARMED BANDITS' EXECUTED IN ESLAMABAD

LD021134 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch, in accordance with the sentence passed by the Islamic Revolution Court in Eslamabad, three armed bandits were executed in Kermanshah's Dizelabad Prison this morning. The three persons, Shirdel Asadi, Faryadras Gholami and Salar Khosravi, who had committed the crimes of fomenting terror and panic, armed robbery, rape, blocking highways at the beginning of the revolution and corruption, were deemed to have perpetrated corruption on earth and to have waged war against God and His apostle, and were executed.

RADIO IRAN REPORTS TEHRAN BRIDGE BOMBING

NC052133 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] Following continuous explosions in Tehran and other cities, it has been reported that a strong bomb, planted on the Seyyed Khandan bridge in Tehran, exploded and destroyed one of the bridge's supporting arches. The strength of the explosion was so great that windows of buildings around the bridge were smashed. This report states that the main structure of the bridge has not been greatly damaged by the explosion and that traffic continues. Some time ago, the Seyyed Khandan gas station, which is situated near the bridge, caught fire as a result of a bomb explosion.

RADIO IRAN ON ANTIREGIME DEMONSTRATIONS IN KASHAN

NC052059 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] Antiregime demonstrations took place in Kashan. During the demonstrations, clashes developed and, with the intervention of the revolution guards, some people were killed or injured.

Reports indicate that as a result of a grenade being thrown into the crowd, three women were killed and others were injured.

NVOI URGES MOJAHEDIN-E KHALQ TO END CLASHES

TA040824 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 3 May carried a commentary, entitled "The Judgment of History Is Merciless," which said that the recent clashes in some parts of the country, which have resulted in the killing and wounding of some people, are being discussed by the domestic press as well as by the world mass media. The imperialist Western mass media have expressed satisfaction with these events, riots and clashes and allegedly consider them to be a sign of resistance to Iranian revolutionary rule. This very fact should open the eyes of many duped persons in the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization and make them ponder the situation. Those of whose sincerity in struggling against imperialism there is no doubt, it is time for them to wonder why all the foes of the Iranian revolution from the Savakists and U.S. Maoists to the compromising liberals supported by Brzezinski, from groups dependent on Bakhtiar, Oveysi and Palizban to U.S., British and West German propaganda machinery, are all tuning one melody and are lauding the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization.

We are addressing ourselves to the healthy and patriotic members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization who in the past played an important role in advancing the revolution and its gains. The intentions of the Savakists and agents of dependent capitalists and homemade liberals are evident. These groups made their position clear a long time ago. Agents of these groups had and continue to have overt cooperation with U.S. spies. Thus, these infamous groups have recently entered the arena with the mask of allegedly defending freedom and independence in order to trap inexperienced youths and use them for carrying out their anti-Iranian plans.

We have often said that U.S. imperialism and its agents have much experience in resorting to various methods for misleading public opinion and even for misleading organizations and inexperienced political figures from the principal line of anti-imperialist struggle. Unfortunately, differences in the upper echelons, irresponsible statements of some government figures, blind fanaticism and monopoly seeking make the ground even smoother for counterrevolutionary maneuvers.

In our country today, there is no person true to the revolution who does not condemn these clashes and riots under conditions imposed on our homeland by world-devouring imperialism and its agents. Even the president, during an interview, said these clashes do not benefit the country and the country should be governed in a calm atmosphere. It would have been good if the president had been true in practice to what he says in his statements, writings and interviews. Unfortunately, it must be said that both the president and his entourage and the mouthpieces of the liberals, such as MIZAN, either willingly or unwillingly have participated in creating an atmosphere of unrest, either directly or indirectly. Organizations such as the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization should desist from the path they have chosen before it is too late, otherwise the judgment of history and the nation will be merciless toward them.

BRIEFS

NEW FUEL PRODUCED--Tehran, 4 May (OPECNA)--Iran's Ministry of Petroleum has developed a new fuel called mazoil, which is already being made available to gasoil consumers. According to the technical group which produced mazoil, no major changes in the furnace are necessary for the utilization of the new fuel. The use of "mazoil" means a 10-percent saving in the use of fuel as more energy is conserved, since its heat value is more than that of gasoil, the ministry says. The ministry adds that about 260 industrial units are using "mazoil" and that commercial and domestic premises are also carrying out experiments on its use. [Text] [Vienna OPECNA in English 1605 GMT 4 May 81 LD]